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Bangalore Mirror ON SUNDAY

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Someone who cares for strays in the metropolis has approached BBMP with a plan to build small shelters for dogs outside apartment complexes

STRAY WOKE

Streeties suffered much during first lockdown

Bellie.Thomas @timesgroup.com

TWEETS @Bellie_MIRROR

Rashmi Singhania has a special bond with stray dogs near her home. The Jalahalli resident takes care of more than 60 streeties near HMT residential quarters. Besides, Singhania has a far-reaching goal. She wants spaces that can shelter the canines. With a concrete plan, she has approached the BBMP for approvals to build dog shelters attached to apartment complexes – tiny corner spaces or so.

"Whenever strays find shade or a cozy space, residents living in close proximity raise objections, and end up harming and abusing the animals. Or, the strays encounter territorial disputes with other dogs," Singhania told BM.

A homemaker and animal lover, Singhania often travels in her car with pet food and medicines, looking for hungry and wounded animals. She started this routine since the first lockdown when the strays suffered much due to closure of commercial establishments.

"I saw the agony in each animal's eyes; I decided to keep on doing my work serving the animals," Singhania recalled.

Alongside feeding dogs, Singhania makes sure all streeties under her care are vaccinated and neutered. She even maintains vaccination certificates.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12 »

> "I saw the agony in each animal's eyes... and decided to keep on doing my work serving the animals.
>
> — Rashmi Singhania

PAGE 3

SOLAR MAN

IIT researcher on a 11-year journey aboard a solar-powered bus

PAGE 6

JUMBO SHOCKER

Of 31 jumbo deaths in 3 years, 28 due to electrocution, in K'taka

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BTC elections: A fiery finish to the race

Ikram Khan
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@timesgroup.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

A race in full swing at the Bangalore Turf Club

With the campaigning for the Bangalore Turf Club (BTC) elections concluding on Saturday, the hype is at its highest and has generated maximum interest in sporting club circles. This time, 22 candidates including three women and Asian Games silver medallist Fouaad Mirza are in the fray for the dozen memberships on offer.

Members, particularly the young brigade, have decided to vote for individuals, who have the ability to support and promote the game and more importantly, individuals who have made investments in the game.

The new approach and thinking of the members have been appreciated in the sporting circles considering the fact that the promoters and investors -- especially horse owners -- must be supported taking into account that the sport needs to reach the next level.

A few group leaders said that apart from five contestants who hold a definite edge, it will be a close call for the rest of the seven berths.

Balram Jairaj, Vikram Sreeram, Fouaad Mirza, Dr M N Arvind and Akanksh Ashok are the frontrunners. Darshan Uppini, who has picked up a couple of horses and Gautam Agarwal, who has more than 35 horses in training to his credit at this premier centre and is one of the big owners for more than three decades are among the hot picks for the top five.

If it is taken into account that BTC members are right to elect horse owners with a clean image, Uppini and Gautam Agarwal should make it.

Among the three women in the fray, Indira Medappa tops the list and according to the many old hats in the election campaigns, she is certain to make the list. Medappa is a regular at BTC and the decision of the members to elect investors, promoters, sponsors and regulars is commendable.

But, if it will really happen is the big question and the results on Monday will provide the answer. And if the members do stick to the new thinking and approach, it will provide a new dimension to the sport at this premier racing club.

Ola e-scooter catches fire

A video of an Ola S1 pro scooter catching fire has emerged from Lohegaon area of Pune on Saturday. In the 31-second clip, the scooter is seen parked on the roadside of a busy commercial area and is completely engulfed in fire, possibly suffering from a thermal runway.

Thermal runaway is an uncontainable exothermic reaction that can occur inside a lithium-ion battery when it is damaged or short-circuited.

"We are investigating to understand the root cause and will share more updates in the next few days," the company said.

While the cause of the fire in the S1 Pro is being investigated, in most cases batteries catch fire due to poor quality of lithiumion cells or an inefficient battery management system.

This, however, is not the first such instance of an electric scooter catching fire in India. – **Sumant Bajaj, ETAuto**

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4 THINGS TO DO

01 Love, humour, and more

Kathputliyan Theatre Group (KTG) presents "Saadhe Chay Rupiye ka kya kiya?" The play is a peculiar love story of a husband and wife and their playful conflicts on silly and littlest of things; thereby outlining the mischief, liveliness and honesty in their relationship. The play is written by Kiran Potrekar and translated into Hindi by Raja Bagban, directed by Zafer Mohiuddin.
Where: Alliance Francaise, Vasanth Nagar
When: March 27, 5 – 7 pm; Entry: Free

02 Food for the soul

The Crucible is an exciting drama about the Puritan purge of witchcraft in old Salem. It is both a gripping historical play and a timely parable of our contemporary society. This reading is the first of several events under the Rebuilding Resources Initiative at Jagriti Theatre. Post the reading, advocate Aditya Sondhi will respond to the themes in play and open up a short interaction with the audience. **Where: Jagriti Theatre, Whitefield**
When: March 27, 3:00 PM
Tickets: bookmyshow.com

03 Ugadi Santhe

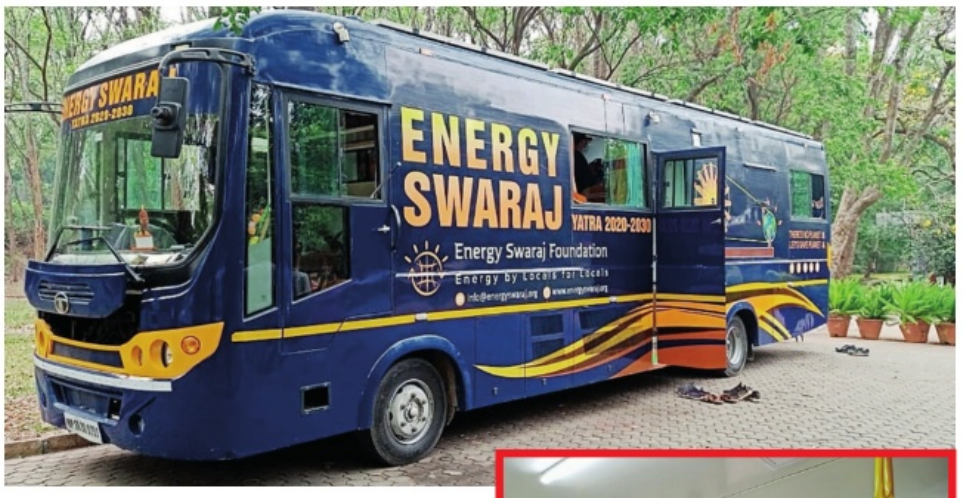
Check out Ragi Kana's Ugadi Santhe that promises to be a one-of-a-kind event. The Santhe will be packed with numerous farmers bringing authentic and fresh organic produce. There will be a wide variety of summer fruits and vegetables, freshly harvested, along with groceries. Food will take centre stage with a special section dedicated for traditional Karnataka sweets. Several other Ugadi special dishes/ beverages will be available. There will also be a saree exhibition and cultural programmes and workshops.
Where: Chikoo and Coconut Farm, Gottigere
When: March 27, 10.30 AM – 6 PM
Entry: free, 9483852436

04 World Theatre Day

This Sunday, on World Theatre Day, join Ranga Shankara to spend a day celebrating the resilient spirit of our theatre community. At 'Encounters: Inspiring Stories from Theatre', several theatre folks from Karnataka and Maharashtra will share the work they have created and engaged with during the last two years. In the evening, several artists will go on a journey into finding one's voice through stages of discoveries and self-affirmation in 'Pressing Pause', a series of movement solos. The team of Ranga Mantapa will perform old and popular theatre songs such as those by BV Karanth, C Ashwat, Yognarasimha and many more.
Where: Ranga Shankara
When: Mar 27, 12:00 pm – 7:30 pm
Entry: Free, 080 2649 3982

Onboard the solar future

Prof on 11-year solar bus ride to spread awareness on solar energy



Professor Chetan Singh Solanki has covered 17,000 km in his solar-powered bus till now

Bellie.Thomas@timesgroup.com

TWEETS @Bellie_Mirror

An IIT Bombay professor, on an unpaid leave, has set on a solar bus journey of 11 years, aiming to bring energy literacy to over 100 crore population and encourage over one crore families to switch to 100 per cent solar energy. Since November 2020, he has been travelling and residing in the vehicle, undertaking an Energy Swaraj Yatra and aims to complete it in 2030..

Prof Chetan Singh Solanki, also an educator, researcher and innovator, is often referred to as the 'Solar Man of India', and 'Solar Gandhi' for following Gandhian ideals. He coined the name 'Energy Swaraj' to create a public movement on adoption of 100 per cent solar energy. He founded his Energy Swaraj Foundation soon after he was honoured with the Brand Ambassador of Solar Energy of Madhya Pradesh Government.

Solanki and his solar bus is currently at the IISc campus where he offers lectures to IISc and Kendra Vidyalaya School students.

According to Solanki, climate change is threatening not just sustainable life, but is dangerous to the entire planet. "We have only 7 to 9 years left before we reach global warming of 1.5 degree Centigrade, according to an IPCC report. Therefore, drastic and immediate actions are required to mitigate climate change."

He says the government alone can't do anything about climate change by controlling carbon emissions that are polluting air, water and soil. "It is each and every human's behaviour that needs to change, bringing in awareness how not to misuse energy consumption. In my opinion, one should think about whether I should even consume energy for a task."

Prof Solanki has covered a total of 483 days, as on Saturday, travelling over 17,000 km and reaching out to over 55,000 people across seven Indian states. He will have to spend another 3,200 days in the solar bus. The bus is running on 3.2 kW solar panels and 6 k Watts of battery storage. It has a 3 k Va inverter. Lights, cooler, cookstove, television, air conditioner, laptop charging inside the bus are all solar-powered. However the bus engine runs on diesel. Starting his Energy Swaraj Yatra in Madhya Pradesh he had visited New Delhi and Meerut and several cities in Gujarat and Northwestern states of India. Recently, he planned to travel towards Bengaluru, Coimbatore and Kanyakumari, to spread awareness on energy literacy.

Prof Solanki, during 2019, had travelled across the world, covering over 30 countries spreading the message of solar energy.

When asked about why he chose 11 years for the Yatra, sacrificing his time with his family,

> **Each and every human's behaviour needs to change to bring in awareness how not to misuse energy consumption**
>
> –Chetan Singh Solanki, IIT Bombay professor

Prof Solanki says he feels that his own house is on fire and he has to run to every one of his countrymen to alert them where we are heading as a humankind.

He has to travel across the country at least 5-7 times to make considerable awareness. "It will be too late when we realise that we are heading in the wrong direction and the consequences are irreversible when it comes to climate change and global warming," Solanki says.

Prof Solanki has led major solar projects at IIT Bombay and through his SoULS project, he has reached 7.5 million families providing them clean light. There are several awards to his credit which include IEEE's global grand prize of US100,000$, Prime Minister's innovation award for SoULS project, first prize in Solar Chulha Design Challenge by ONGC, three Guiness World Record, two Young Scientist awards, CSIR Science and Technology award, Excellence in RE Skilling, 'Outstanding Green Activist' and many more.

He has written seven books and published over 100 research papers internationally and has four US patents to his credit.

Solanki says the solution lies in adopting Energy Swaraj or generating and consuming energy locally and responsibly by demystifying solar technology. Adopting Energy Swaraj will also help in skill development, livelihood creation, energy independence, local economy strengthening and of course climate change mitigation, he opines.

Prof Solanki considers his yatra to sow the seeds for this movement so that we all can create a better and beautiful self-sustainable world tomorrow.

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N6	08	Nainital Mussoorie Corbet Park	33,000
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H3	09	Spectacular Shimla Manali	33,000
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K3	08	Amazing Kashmir Vaishnodevi	38,000
K4	07	Stunning Kashmir	38,000
H1	09	Shimla Manali Premium	40,000
N2	11	Nainital Mussoorie Corbett Park	46,000
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Sounds like treeson

Palike wants to chop 14 trees, lay white-topping on Tumakuru Road, widen it to solve traffic issues; experts say it doesn't make any sense at all to them

Garima Prasher
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@timesgroup.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

A notice issued by Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) regarding the removal of 14 trees on Tumakuru Road has miffed some. The notice was published in a newspaper on Saturday to inform citizens that the executive engineer in charge has submitted an application to the undersigned for the removal of the trees. It stated this is for a white-topping project between CNR Rao Underpass and Mekhri Circle on Tumakuru Road.

The notice stated, 147 trees are in the project area and 14 trees are proposed to be removed. Further, it invited citizens to file any objections, comments and suggestions within 10 days.

"White-topping involves adding another layer of concrete on the road to improve the surface. Why chop trees off for this activity? All the trees on that road are on pavements. If the trees are not obstructing construction work, they should not be touched. There can be no justification to cut any tree for such projects," said Dattatraya Devare, trustee, Bangalore Environment Trust. For Prof Ashish Verma, sustainable transportation lab, Indian Institute of Science (IISc), too this is a puzzling demand.

"It is beyond my understanding why the trees have to be cut for white-topping work. There are no trees in the middle of the stretch that BBMP has mentioned in its notice," he said. BBMP has been trying to widen the road for some time now and it had recently reached out to experts at IISc to conduct a study on the feasibility and usefulness of widening the stretch.

The stretch mentioned in the notice has 147 trees, BBMP wants to chop 14 for the white-topping and widening projects

> **"It is difficult to understand the logic behind chopping even one tree for white-topping work**
> – Prof Rajan, IISc

"BBMP reached out to us to conduct a study of the road to help them understand whether widening will solve the traffic woes. We looked at various options including optimisation of the signal timings of adjoining traffic signals. We have concluded the study and given our recommendations on the best ways to ease traffic on a short-term basis. BBMP has been putting pressure on IISc to give away some land to widen that stretch, which the institute is not keen on. Moreover, road widening is not a long-term solution and has not been fruitful in the past," said Prof Verma.

According to regular commuters the point of bottleneck is elsewhere and widening the road will not solve the traffic problems.

"It is difficult to understand the logic behind chopping even one tree for white-topping work. Moreover, the stretch in question is well off in terms of surface quality. I don't see a reason for white-topping works. It does not require it to be widened either. The bottleneck point is elsewhere," said Prof Rajan, IISc.

BM reached out to an official of the forest department. He said, "A total of 147 trees are there in the project line. The engineering department has proposed to cut 14 trees for the work to progress. This will also include a little bit of road widening. We will upload the details of the notice on the BBMP website by Monday.

However, the project can start only after receiving an approval from the tree committee. If it's not feasible, the committee will disapprove anyway."

Bus priority lanes will not cease to exist, yet

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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Various quarters have been pushing for the removal of plastic bollards or fibre barricades installed for the city's first bus priority lane. A recent motorcycle accident is among factors leading to the removal of the bollards.

"Since the Metro work commenced, almost 85 per cent of the right-most lane is barricaded. There is one lane for buses and one for the rest of the traffic on the Outer Ring Road (ORR). In case of traffic congestion, motorists try to use the bus lane. We are not penalising them for now. However, the bollards are placed in a certain way to prevent them from entering the bus priority lane. This is risky for motorists... it can be fatal," a traffic warden told BM.

He said the traffic department is trying to increase the space between bollards and even remove them to allow heavier vehicles to make turns while using the bus priority lane. Further, he said, apart from bollards, rumbler strips are also a threat to motorists.

Private vehicles using the bus priority lane on ORR

"Two accidents have occurred on ORR recently at different spots. More people have also started going to work in person... so traffic issues have increased. Heavy vehicles also tend to run on ORR. With reduced road width (due to the Metro project) it has become riskier for motorists," said a traffic official.

Meanwhile folks are beginning to worry about the erasure of bus priority lanes. Greenpeace India activists painted a clear message on ORR with the words "Protect the Bus Lane" to demand protection and expansion of bus priority lanes in Bengaluru.

"It is unfortunate that instead of strengthening public transportation, representatives are asking to reconsider the bus priority lane that has been helping reduce travel time and congestion and improving ridership. The authorities must take concrete steps to make the bus priority lane a permanent feature and expand the lane to other road networks," said campaign manager Avinash Chanchal of Greenpeace India.

Janaagraha Centre for Citizenship and Democracy head Srinivas Alavilli said, "The number of commuters on ORR is extremely high and nearly six lakh people work in the area. A bus priority lane is the best solution for decongestion. With people returning to offices, motorists are feeling a pinch. Bus priority lanes can help vehicular movement without causing congestion. There is no conclusive proof that bollards caused the accident. If the traffic police can prove so, the bus priority lane may as well operate without bollards."

Directorate of Urban Land Transport (DULT) commissioner V Manjula clarified bus priority lanes will continue to exist without bollards.

"As bollards have been damaged, cut and ransacked in some places, they will be removed. After the removal, buses will move on the bus priority lane. Any additional signages and road markings required for the operation of the bus lane will be taken up and maintained by BMRCL. The issue will be revisited after six to eight months depending on the progress of the Metro work and the requirement of barricading."

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Don't walk into it

MG Road

The sidewalk-cum-drainage near the Bible Society is certainly not very pedestrian-friendly, especially at night, as it is missing a slab.

Encroached

Ejipura

The main exit drain for rainwater on 10th 'A' Cross is in a bad condition as a person has removed its slabs and filled it with debris.

Pave the way

Kalyan Nagar

The 9 Main in 1st block requires asphalt and other repair works. Will BBMP take notice?

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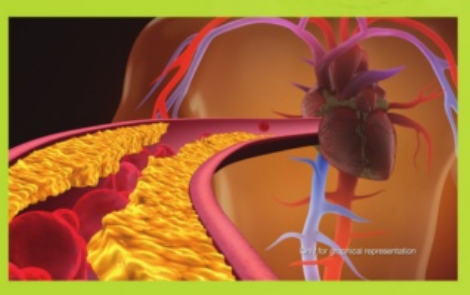

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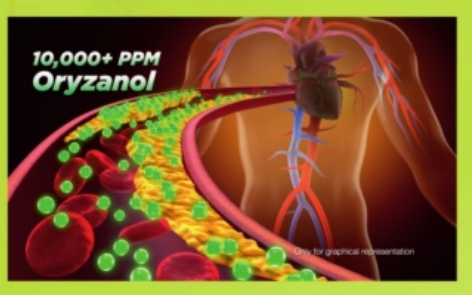

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THE SUNDAY READ

Jumbo shocker

31 elephants died due to unnatural causes in 3 years in K'taka. Of these, 28 died due to electrocution

Garima Prasher
mybangaloremirror@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

If you thought poaching is the biggest threat to wild elephants, you are in for a shock. Information from the Wildlife division of the Karnataka Forest Department reveals that it is electrocution, and not poaching, that might send jumbos on the road to extinction.

As per data furnished by the department, while 31 elephants died due to unnatural causes in the last three years in Karnataka, 28 perished due to electrocution.

During 2021-22, nine cases of unnatural deaths were recorded and eight of them died due to electric shocks. Through 2020-21, while 13 elephants died of unnatural causes, 11 of them were electrocuted; during 2019-20, nine unnatural deaths were recorded, all electrocuted.

A high percentage of elephants dying due to electric shock is startling, say wildlife researchers and activists.

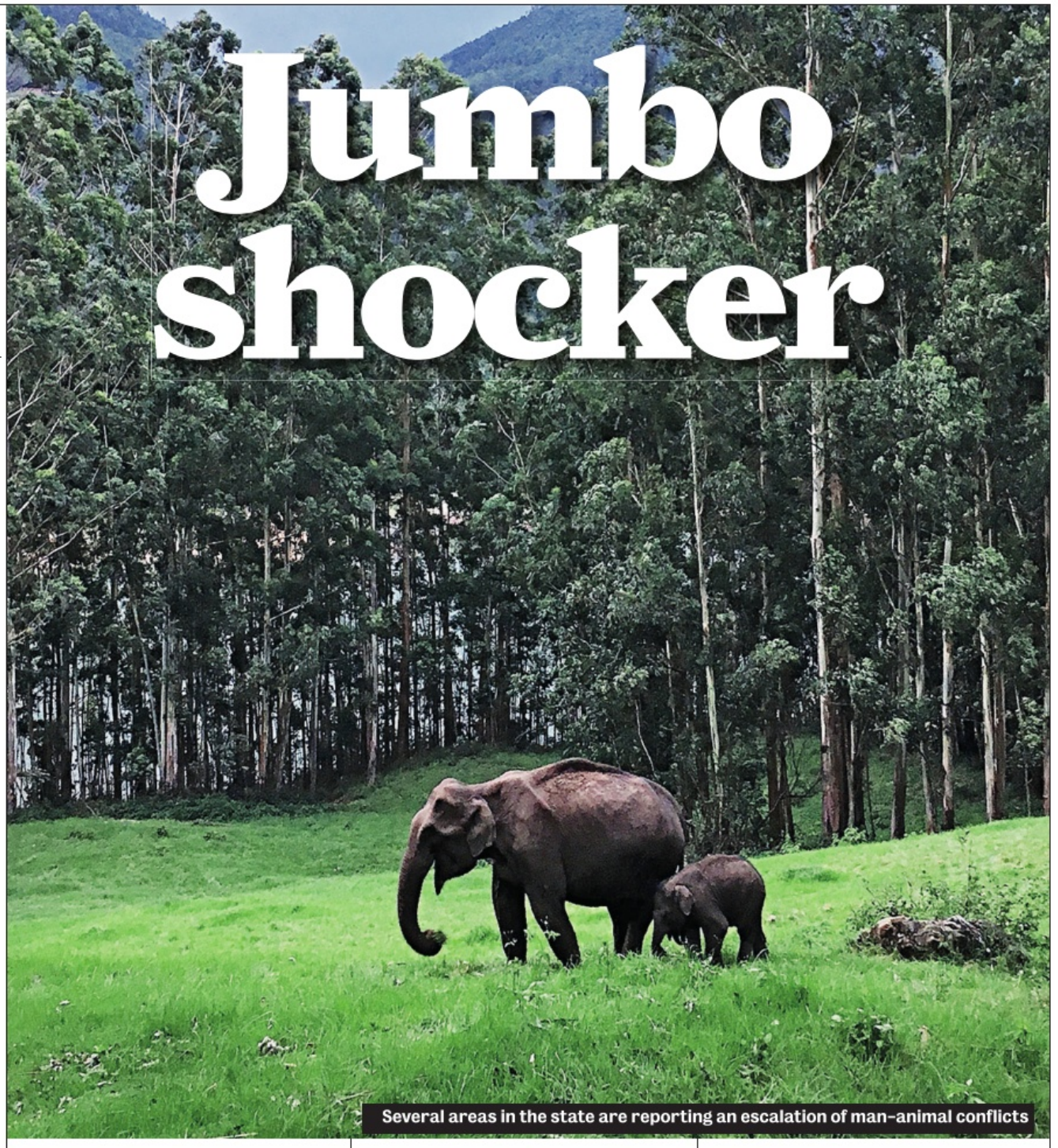
"So many electrocutions point to escalated human-wildlife conflicts. It also can be strong evidence of a crime. A majority of these cases are due to the forest department turning a blind eye to complaints from the villagers. The farmers are left with no other option but to take law in their hands and save their livelihood," said Ramesh Belagere, wildlife activist, Foundation for Ecology and Education Development.

Most of the cases, say the experts, are from the areas where escalated wildlife conflicts have been reported in the past due to ever-shrinking habitat.

"Elephants are migratory animals. They need to travel from one forest to another in search of more food. However, some of the forest corridors have been encroached upon for agriculture purposes. This is where the conflict starts. To protect their farms, villagers put up barbed wire fences with high electric currents. In a few cases, sagging electric wires from electric poles might also lead to the death of elephants," said Daniel Sukumar Das, director, Wildlife Conservation Foundation.

Experts say that a review of human-wildlife conflict management policies at the government and community level is required to save the habitats and the ever-decreasing jumbo population.

"This data implies that a lot of illegal power lines are in use in forest fringe areas. Villagers are tapping into power lines to draw such high voltage wires. So, the vigilance aspect has been overlooked by the Forest department. The department should have conducted a combing operation and worked closely with the electricity supply companies to catch hold of the offenders," said Avinash Krishnan, director, science and conservation, A Rocha India.



Several areas in the state are reporting an escalation of man-animal conflicts

Conservationists opine that although elephants are Schedule I animals and killing them is a punishable offense under the Wildlife Protection Act, the conviction rate has been low.

"Killing a Schedule I animal attracts the strictest of the punishments under the Wildlife Protection Act. While the regulations are in place, neither enough cases are booked against the offenders, nor are they convicted," added Sukumar.

Vijaykumar Gogi, principal chief conservator of forest (Wildlife), Karnataka Forest Department said, "Every time an elephant is electrocuted, a case is booked and is analysed by the electrical inspectorate. The findings are included in our chargesheets and offenders are booked under the Electricity Act and Wildlife Protection Act. We are also paying special attention to the Schedule I animal cases. While some delay in convictions has been inevitable due to the lack of an in-house forensic facility, we have started training our staff and upgrading our facilities to get it on a fast track."

> **"Killing a Schedule I animal attracts the strictest of the punishments under the Wildlife Protection Act. While the regulations are in place, neither enough cases are booked against the offenders, nor are they convicted**
> – Daniel Sukumar Das, Wildlife Conservation Foundation

Mix-and-match to deter the clever animals

From elephant-proof trenches to railway barricades and from solar power tentacle fences to steel wire ropes, the forest department has many ploys in its arsenal to contain the jumbos. However, experts say that it is only a combination of different and ever-changing barriers that probably can bring down the number of wild elephants venturing into farmlands.

"Electric fences with low voltage to keep the elephants out of farmlands have become a futile exercise over time. The elephants know their way around this mechanism. Moreover, setting up an electric fence is a costly affair too. We have suggested that the forest department should put up a combination of different barriers so that the elephants do not adapt. For instance, a combination of an elephant-proof trench, electric fence, and rubble wall will demotivate elephants from destroying the fence. These barriers also need to be changed often. Elephants are smart animals and if exposed to a similar set of fences for long, they discover a way around it. Maintaining the barriers is equally important," said Belagere.

Male elephants at risk

As per the data, 26 out of the 31 elephants that died due to electrocution were males.

Wildlife conservationists say the alarmingly dwindling population of male elephants can impact the viability of the population overall.

"Most of the elephants who get electrocuted are males. Males are bolder and risk-takers, which is a part of their natural biology. On the contrary, females tend to avoid danger as they have calves to take care of. More males getting killed will lead to a skewed population and this will have implications on the viability of the elephant population in the wild," informed Krishnan.

EVs to get powered at colleges, soon

Centre pushes for battery-swapping policy; standards expected to be issued at the earliest

Melvin Mathew
mybangaloremirror
@timesgroup.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMirror

The electric vehicle trend is catching among the youth. Now, many organisations are planning to promote EVs in their campuses. Bescom has expressed interest in setting up a charging infrastructure in Bengaluru colleges. However, the response from the colleges has been low. Bescom wrote to 35 colleges, but were only able to receive confirmation from three colleges including IIM-B. Officials feel that the demand for educational institutions may increase soon as most of the educational institutions want to go for green campus.

Door opens for battery swapping

The Centre has pushed for a battery-swapping policy and standards are expected to be issued in a couple of months.

With more and more manufacturers coming out with new types of swappable batteries, there is a need for standardisation of these areas as well. There are more than five battery swapping operators in Bengaluru. Swappable battery manufacturers tend to tie up with vehicle manufacturers and the batteries are not compatible with other vehicles. After standardisation, there will be interoperability and alignment of these batteries.

More power to EV

To increase EV penetration, there have been several awareness campaigns. To spread awareness on the benefits of EV and ensure its safety, the GO Electric Campaign was launched by the Central government on February 19, 2021. Under the campaign, the individual States were expected to hold state or regional-level webinars, roadshows, technical talks and capacity-building seminars.

A Bescom official said, "On September 18, 2021, Karnataka e-mobility workshop was conducted under the Go-Electric Campaign. Bescom conducted a national-level workshop involving national and international-level speakers. A discussion was held in the presence of the Energy Minister along with EV manufacturers, IoT solutions. RWAs and EV charger manufacturers. The aims of the discussion were to analyse the difficult points and find solutions and look at steps needed to be taken to improve EV penetration."

There are more than 100 charging stations in Bengaluru. Among them, Bescom has set up 74 stations. Over 30 stations are from Ather and another 4-5 are from private operators and the rest are not available to the public.

Meanwhile, the Karnataka government has exempted taxes for the purchase of EVs. For vehicles under the commercial category, the Central government is giving incentives at RS 10,000 per KWh under the FAME II Scheme. For setting up chargers, there is a subsidy of up to Rs 10 lakh for building the infrastructure and up to 25 per cent of the equipment.

For the year 2022, Bescom has finalised 53 stations with 140 charging units. Under the PPP model, another 1,190 charging stations have been planned. Out of the 1,190, 455 locations have been planned under Bescom. Minimum 150 stations in Bengaluru Urban, 75 in Bengaluru Rural, 75 in Tumakuru, 20 in Ramanagara, 20 in Kolar, 20 in Chikkaballapura, 20 in Chitradurga and 75 in Davangere.

Challenges faced

Bescom notes that one of the early challenges faced by them was low utilisation, especially with covid. With lockdown, there was lesser mobility and the fleet operators lost their contracts. During the lockdowns, Bescom recorded the least number of sessions; only 169 vehicles used the charging stations out of the 74 stations set up in the State. Most of the sessions were used by Bescom vehicles.

The current issue faced by them is the standardisation of EV chargers. With more players entering the market, new types of chargers are being introduced. Bescom officials say that in order for charging businesses to be viable, they need to be standardised. Bescom has issued a standardised charger and manufacturers have to provide a standard connector compatible with the charger.

In the case of two-wheelers, manufacturers are giving domestic plugs for chargers while Bescom has industrial plugs. Bescom officials say that this has to be standardised by manufacturers by providing industrial plugs and even mandate it for home use.

Another challenge faced by them is finding space to set up chargers, especially in traffic-packed cities like Bengaluru. Out of the 74, 34 are in other government premises. 81 locations have been offered in Indira Canteen by BBMP, support has poured in from BMTC as well. In total, they have 140 locations in hand.

A total of four cars and three 2/3W vehicles can charge simultaneously at each charging station. One Equivalent Car Space (ECS) is defined as space required for parking one car and is approximately 2.5mx5m in dimensions in a community parking area. The ECS required for different vehicles varies.

Revenue stats

Being the State with one of the lowest rates for EV charging, the charging stations are incurring losses to Bescom. It charges Rs 7.20 per unit for slow charging and Rs 8.01 per unit for fast charging. Owing to the low charges, Bescom is reportedly able to generate Rs 2.5 lakh per month.

However, Bescom is also seeing an uptick in the usage of charging stations. Currently, there are more than 7,000 charging sessions, as of March. Breaking the covid lull, the trend began to go up in January 2021 with 770 transactions, 3,000 transactions in April 2021, with a small dip in May to 200 and then it was followed by a rise. With consumption of 27,000 units, Bescom has also earned revenue of Rs 2 lakh so far for this month.

On average, 20 vehicles can be found charging at Bescom stations during the day and 10 vehicles during the night.

Types of EVs

In addition to pure battery electric vehicles (BEVs), EVs include Plug-in Hybrid Electric Vehicles (PHEVs) and Hybrid Electric Vehicles (HEVs). PHEVs use both petrol / diesel and electricity. These vehicles have two power systems, an internal combustion engine and a battery. The battery can be recharged by plugging the vehicle into an external source. HEVs combine conventional ICE systems with electric propulsion systems. They use regenerative braking to convert energy that is normally wasted during braking into electricity.

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BENGALURU SPEAKS

and gets heard on this page

STORYBEHINDTHEPHOTO

ALL ABOUT PERSPECTIVE

Is it a flower? Is it a dancing girl? Anything can be sculpted with lifeless objects around. Such is the creativity of the human mind.

The picture was clicked by reader **Thanuja M**

If you have a picture and a story to share, send us the picture with your name and number at **mybangaloremirror@timesgroup.com**

A never-ending loop of bad road conditions

Bangalore Mirror Bureau
mybangaloremirror@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

For the residents of Golahalli Main Road, happiness at having a newly laid road, free of potholes, bumps, and craters, was short-lived. Just when they were about to heave a sigh of relief, BESCOM authorities dug another massive hole on the road.

The authorities from BESCOM on February 28 had dug the freshly laid main road for laying down wires. The residents are now annoyed as they feel that it was pointless to dig a road that was newly laid. They are also scared about the fact that they would again be stuck in a never-ending loop of bad road conditions as the authorities do not take any responsibility to clear the area any time soon.

A resident of the area who requested to be anonymous, said, "It had not even been a month since the road was fixed, and already, BESCOM authorities dug the road again and left it like that. I have lost my faith in the authorities completely. For two days, the road has been like this. There is no effort by them to clear the mess that they have created."

The hole occupies the very centre of Golahalli Main Road, and residents can neither walk nor drive past

"We have to leave our house really early so that we can reach our destination on time. This is an unnecessary burden – A resident

Another resident, speaking on similar lines, added that that there was no point in paying taxes if citizens were forced to stay on roads like this one. "Every month I spend around Rs 4,000 in taxes, but it is just of no use. I am not even able to use the roads to commute."

The residents complain that due to the hole right in the middle of the road, the residents cannot use it. The poor condition of the road causes unnecessary traffic as well. "We have to leave our house really early so that we can reach the required place on time. This is an unnecessary burden that we are taking. If there is an emergency, we cannot even leave the house and reach on time," complained another resident.

The residents say that they have raised a ticket with BESCOM along with an email where the condition of the road was written in detail along with the problems that the residents were facing.

However, no one from the department have paid heed to the complaint, so far. No efforts have been made by the authorities to improve the condition of the road.

DID YOU KNOW?

Reputed to be one of the oldest museums in the country, the Government Museum on Kasturba Road is a remarkable treasure trove of archaeological items such as stone carvings, pottery, paintings, coins and inscriptions.
Known to be the oldest museum in the state, it was established in 1865 by the Mysore State with the guidance of Surgeon Edward Balfour and supported by the Chief Commissioner of Mysore, LB Bowring. The museum is also home to the Halmidi inscription, the earliest Kannada inscription (450 AD). A prominent attraction in this museum is the first ever recorded Kannada inscription – the Halmidi inscription (450 AD) and Atakur inscription (949 AD) slabs. Neolithic pottery from excavations carried out at Chandravalli, excavations artifacts from Mohenjo Daro, Halebid and Vijayanagar, terracotta from Mathura and weapons from Kodagu can also be found there.

GET HEARD WITH MIRROR

9591233247

Let's see how much you know about Namma Bengaluru, folks. Tell us something incredible and mind-boggling about this beautiful city and our editors and researchers will check it out. If it's credible, we'll give it a shout-out, with your name and picture.

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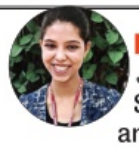
where Bengalureans speak their mind

What can be done to protect and improve the city's parks?



Pranjul Soni
Journalism student
Separate zones for older citizens and children to avoid the crowd can be made. The time period when people can access the parks for longer time can be increased.

Brinda Balaji **BCom student**
We can protect our parks in the city by planting more trees, cleaning up trash, trimming bushes and landscaping and building park benches.

Suraj Jangid **BSc student**
Parks can be improved by self-discipline. As there is a saying 'be the change you wish to see in the world', one can start maintaining cleanliness in the park on their own and people might follow suit.Hefty fines can be imposed on those who litter or destroy the park or its property.

Priyanka **BCom student**
Having toilets in the parks, growing more trees, better maintenance, increasing the level of security, having a separate section for pets in the parks can be some of the measures that can be taken.

Kavitha Srinivas **Homemaker**
Variety of plants can be planted, cleanliness should be maintained, exercising equipment should be installed. Play areas should be maintained well for children.

SPEAK TO US

What appeals to you the most about Bengaluru's heritage?

If you want to be featured in this section, mail us your answer to this question, in 25 words, with 'Tap The Chatter' in the subject line. Mail us with your name, occupation & a picture at mybangaloremirror@timesgroup.com or WhatsApp us on 9591233247

Meet Mysuru woman who defied tradition to become a gravedigger

When this 57-year-old woman started digging graves to bury the dead at a graveyard in 2005, people instead of appreciating her courage, looked down upon her.

However, with the passage of time as she continued her work of digging graves, having dug more than 1,000 graves, she attained a kind of celebrity status in the state. People of all faiths, various organizations and religious seers are now appreciating her work, grit and courage.

Talking to IANS, Sharane Neelamma said she has received innumerable felicitations and appreciation and it has become difficult for her to balance attending functions and carry on with her work of digging graves.

"I lost my husband to a heart attack, we walked into a hospital when he complained of chest pain but he died in the hospital in 15 minutes. When life hits you hard and puts you in a difficult situation, it prepares you for survival with courage," she stated.

She said, "with this work of grave digging I needn't be at the mercy of others for work. I dig graves and they pay me money. I earned Rs 200 to dig a grave in 2005, now I earn Rs 1,000" she said.

She said that it was not an easy journey. Leave aside recognition, no one was even sympathetic when she started digging graves. "People saw me like a bonded labourer, passed humiliating comments. Even as cheap comments were made in my presence, I remained silent. I didn't say a word to anyone and didn't bother to answer."

Sharane Neelamma, who has dug more than 1,000 graves, has attained a kind of celebrity status

But community members who are no more now had supported Sharane Neelamma when she sought their approval for the job at the graveyard.

She could support her family consisting of two sons with her work. "My boys helped me to dig graves whenever they had the time, now they are grown up and even today they support me."

"Now, the people who had ridiculed me are happy for me, it is a matter of pride for me," she said.

The profession has taught Sharane Neelamma a few lessons of life. "Many who have everything do not live their lives. It is not necessary to have riches to lead our lives. We need air, water and food to live. People should lead their lives with courage," she opined.

She added that irrespective of the social status she digs graves of the same dimension for everyone. "For the rich as well as the poor, I dig a shoulder level trench of the same size."

Neelamma said it takes about three hours for her to dig one grave. "I told my elders that I am just doing the work of a coolie. They explained that it is not possible for everyone to take up this job. Even courageous men run away, scared by the reference to a graveyard. I never got scared," she said.

Her younger son Basavarajendra Prasad said that he is happy to see his mother receiving recognition in the society.

Sharane Neelamma when asked about spirits and demons said, "We need to understand one thing. We need to be scared of living beings and not the dead ones." **–IANS**

Hijab challenge looms as exams near

Karnataka education department, which successfully conducted board exams during the Covid pandemic in the last two years, is now facing the challenge of hijab issue. Against the backdrop of verdict by the Special bench of the Karnataka High Court, the state government has decided not to allow students wearing hijab to take up exams. To ensure smooth conduct of exams, tight police security will be made near the examination centres.

The state government is conducting crucial SSLC (Class 10) examinations from March 28 and will continue till April 11. As many as 8,73,846 students have enrolled for SSLC exams this academic year.

The exams will be conducted in 3,444 centres across the state. CCTV cameras have been installed in all examination centres and prohibitory orders will be clamped in and around them.

Since the last two years, the teaching fraternity has been under tremendous stress. The teachers pledged their lives and worked during Covid pandemic and conducted board exams. Though, all students were passed, the initiative by the department was appreciated. Separate arrangements were made for Covid affected students to give their exams.

The teachers were also used for Covid-related work and many had lost their lives in the process. Now, it's the hijab issue which is equally stressful for them, sources in the education department say.

However, the High Court order on hijab is being challenged in the Supreme Court by petitioner students. Opposition Congress is vehemently demanding ruling BJP to allow students to write exams by wearing hijab.

Opposition leader Siddaramaiah has demanded that the Muslim students with dupatta matching with the uniform be allowed inside the examination halls.

Later, he went on to say that if Hindu, Jain women and religious leaders can wear cloth around their faces, why can't Muslim students?

The statement stirred a controversy and later, Siddaramaiah clarified that he has great respect for religious leaders and he didn't mean to insult them.

Sources in the police department said that even after government order following the court verdict, the students will attempt to write exams wearing hijab and when they will be stopped, there will be chaos near the examination centers. The situation needs to be handled properly to ensure that students attending exams are not disturbed, they say.

BC Nagesh, Minister for Education has clarified that students wearing hijab are not allowed to take exams and there is no second thought about it. "We will not allow students with hijab to any exams including board examinations," he said.

'Convince students, don't ruin their careers'

Karnataka Congress President DK Shivakumar on Saturday urged parents and the BJP government in the state to convince the students about the court verdict on hijab to ensure that their careers are not ruined.

Shivakumar was speaking to reporters on the state government's decision to ban students from appearing in the crucial SSLC exams (Class 10) wearing hijab in the backdrop of the recent high court verdict.

"Children's education is of paramount importance. The students might commit mistakes. They might even be persistent. But their future must not be harmed for this. The parents need to sit and talk with them," he said.

"Religious leaders, parents and teachers must themselves get convinced first, and then persuade the children. Children always listen to their teacher's words, and the mother is their first teacher," the Congress leader added. **IANS**

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CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Woof, woof... Who's there?

She has been serving animals full-time individually without any financial aid. Singhania is in touch with a few animal activists who help whenever she is confronted with anyone who objects to feeding strays or quarrels with her over feeding dogs. She also reports animal cruelty cases to the activists and makes sure the culprits are brought to book. Singhania carries a shovel and a cloth in her car always to give a dignified burial to dead stray animals if need be.

The idea

Singhania zeroed in on a more concrete idea for animal shelters after a recent incident. Near her locality, she found a dog that had given birth to 12 puppies. It was not even a month, and six puppies disappeared one after the other. A few of them were found dead nearby. Singhania buried them. She started caring for the remaining puppies and the mother dog thereafter. She saw two puppies were injured, one had been hit with a stick.

"The puppy was whimpering and looked like it would not survive. I decided that I was going to save it," she said. She named it Champion and took it to the CUPA hospital where it was cared for.

"When Champion was limping back to life, I checked for dog shelters in the city to take care of the puppy, but they all denied help. Finally, a kennel at Kengeri offered to take care of Champion; now he is doing fine there," Singhania said.

There are 400 flats at the HMT Residential Quarters, but not a single soul from those flats would offer a biscuit or food to the nearby streeties, she said. "The entire land where the flat stands was stray territory not so long ago; so how can they get dislodged from there?" Singhania asked, adding that it was the residents who are newcomers and they have to co-exist with the strays.

So, Singhania decided to construct a few dog homes, especially near apartment complexes. But for that she requires approvals either from RWAs or the BBMP authorities if she is constructing the shelters outside. "I have designed dog homes -- cozy places for the Indies to take rest, sleep in harsh weather," Singhania added.

Singhania and a few animal activists have now approached the BBMP to give them approval for small spaces, especially near huge apartment complexes where several stray dogs have been suffering without shelter.

"The department is not an authority that can provide space for construction of dog rest houses. Animal lovers and activists can approach the respective zone's joint commissioner and engineering division; request for spaces for constructing dog rest houses. They would check on feasibility. With no objections from the residents around, they could approve granting spaces for construction of dog rest houses," animal husbandry department's assistant director Dr Lakshminarayana told BM.

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I, Chitra Shankar, D/o Subbaraman Lakshminarayanan, R/o S-373, Crimson, Brigade Lakefront, Seetharampalya, Hoodi, Whitefield, Bangalore have changed my name as Chitra Lakshminarayanan for all future purposes.

I, Srishti R/o 5184- Eton, Prestige Westwood, Binnipete, Bengaluru, Karnataka-560023 have changed my name to Srishti Bose

I, NARAYANANAPPA CHANDRASHEKHAR, R/at No.183/B 56th Cross Road, 4th Block, Rajajinagar , Bengaluru-560010 have changed my name to NARAYANAPPA CHANDRA SHEKAR vide affidavit dated:26/3/2022 Before Notary K.V.Mani Bangalore.

I Sunilkumar Srinarayansingh R/o 7, 1st Floor, 1st Cross, Ex-servicemen Colony, Dinnur Main Road, R T Nagar, Bengaluru-560032, have changed my name to Sunil Kumar Singh

I, Ankur Vaishnav R/o H.No-1, 3rd Floor 3rd Main 4th Cross, Ayyappa Block Viveknagar Post Bengaluru-560047 have changed my minor son's name from Rishabh to Rishabh Vaishnav for all purposes.

I, Sheik Farhatulla H S/o Shaik Vazeer R/o 1489 1st Cross Near Water Tank Vijinapura Doorvani Nagar Karnataka Bangalore 560016 have changed my name to Shaik Farhathulla.

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SINDHI SPECIAL

Go the traditional route with these classic Sindhi recipes that will jazz up your meal

SEYAL MURGH

INGREDIENTS

- Chicken curry cut: 500 gm
- Chopped onions: 1
- Chopped tomatoes: 2
- Potato (big piece): 1
- Capsicum (chopped): 1
- Yoghurt: 250 gm
- Cardamom: 4
- Cloves: 4
- Garam masala: 2 tbsp
- Jeera powder: 1tbsp
- Coriander powder: 1tbsp
- Red chilli: 1tbsp
- Turmeric powder: 1 tbsp
- Amchoor powder: A pinch
- Oil: 2 tbsp

Prep Time: 10 mins
Marination Time: 1 hour
Cooking Time: 20 mins
Serves 2

METHOD

- Mix all the ingredients with chicken and leave it to marinate for about an hour. Later, place all the ingredients in pan and stir for about 10 minutes. After stirring it, leave the pan on slow fire for another 10 – 15 minutes. Served hot with khameer roti.

BAJRA KHICHDI

INGREDIENTS

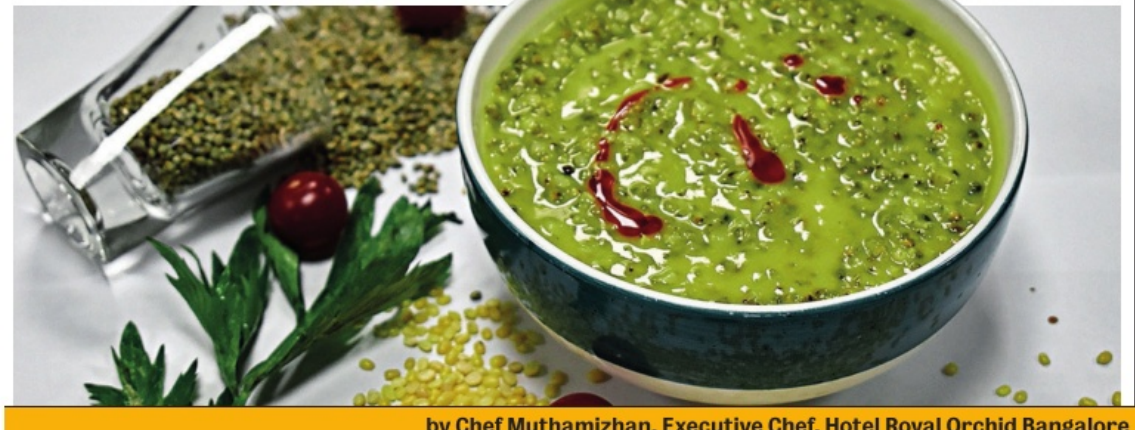
For dough

- Bajra (Soak overnight): 125 gm
- Yellow moong dal: 125 gm
- Salt: To taste
- Ghee: 1 tbsp
- Cumin seed: 1 tsp
- Asafoetida: ½ tsp
- Turmeric powder: ¼ tsp

Prep Time: 10 mins
Cooking Time: 30 mins
Serves 2

METHOD

- To make the bajra khichdi, combine the soaked bajra with yellow moong dal, salt, and 2 cups of water in a pressure cooker, mix well and pressure cook for 5–6 whistles. Allow the steam to escape before opening the lid. Keep aside. Heat the ghee in a deep non-stick pan and add the cumin seeds. When the seeds crackle, add the asafoetida and turmeric powder and sauté on a medium flame for a few seconds. Add the cooked bajra, moong dal mixture and little salt, mix well and cook on a medium flame for 5 minutes, while stirring occasionally. Serve bajra khichdi hot with a side accompaniment of chaas (buttermilk), kadhi or with fresh curd.



TEEVAN MUTTON CURRY

INGREDIENTS

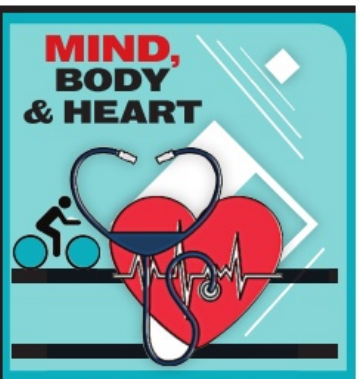
- Mutton curry cut: 1 kg
- Curd: 125 gm
- Turmeric powder: 2 tbsp
- Coriander powder: 2 tbsp
- Garam masala: 1 tsp
- Salt: to taste
- Lemon juice: 1 piece
- Bayleaves: 2
- Whole black cardamom: 2
- Cinnamon sticks: 2
- Cloves: 6
- Green cardamom: 6
- Ginger garlic paste: 2 tbsp
- Green chillies: 4
- Chopped onion: 4
- Tomatoes, chopped: 4
- Potato cubes: 1
- Coriander leaves: to garnish

Prep Time: 30 mins
Cooking Time: 60 mins
Serves 4

METHOD

- Clean and wash the mutton pieces. Marinade it with curds, 1 tsp each of red chili powder, salt, coriander powder, turmeric powder, and garam masala powder and lemon juice. Keep it covered for 1 hour to marinade. In a cooker, heat oil. Add cumin seeds, cloves, cinnamon, cardamoms and bay leaves. Sauté nicely and add chopped onions. Fry the onions, add chopped green chilies and ginger-garlic paste. Sauté till onions have browned lightly. Now add 1 tsp each of turmeric, dhaniya powder, red chili powder and salt. Add the mutton pieces, potato cubes and sauté it. Cook on a low flame till the water from the mutton dries up. By this time, all the spices must have coated well with mutton pieces. Now, add grated tomatoes. Again, sauté it well till the oil separates from the mutton. Add sufficient water in the cooker and cook on a high flame first up to 2 whistles. Now, lower the flame and let it cook for another 15 minutes on slow flame. Cook till the mutton pieces are tender. Transfer into serving bowl and garnish with coriander leaves. Serve hot with zeera rice, rotis and onion slices.

by Chef Muthamizhan, Executive Chef, Hotel Royal Orchid Bangalore



All problems solved

Dear Coleen

I'm a 50-year-old man and I haven't had a serious relationship since my marriage ended nine years ago. However, I met a woman a few months ago who I've really fallen for. There are a couple of issues, though - she's 36 and has been clear that she likes us being casual and doesn't want to be tied down to anything right now. I'm in two minds. I enjoy being with her and the sex is really good - but I know what I'm like and I'm a one woman sort of guy. I don't want to see other people and I'm too long in the tooth to have a friends-withbenefits arrangement. Every time I see her I try to explain how I feel, but then we have a good time, end up in bed and that's that! I'd love some words of wisdom.

COLEEN SAYS

I think you know yourself what you want from a relationship, and deep down this isn't it. The risk is, you'll end up with a broken heart because you'll always want more than she's willing to give. Or she'll skip off with someone else after you've invested a lot of yourself in the relationship.

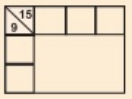
She's keeping her options open and that might be fine for her, but it's not for you.

If I were you, I'd be clear that you don't want a friends with-benefits arrangement, so any kind of intimacy is off the agenda. That will mean not getting into a situation where you end up in bed together! Maybe it will force her to reconsider whether she's up for giving the relationship a proper go, or maybe not.

But it's better to know than being in limbo, stopping you from meeting someone who wants commitment too.

—Coleen Nolan, Daily Mirror

Kakuro



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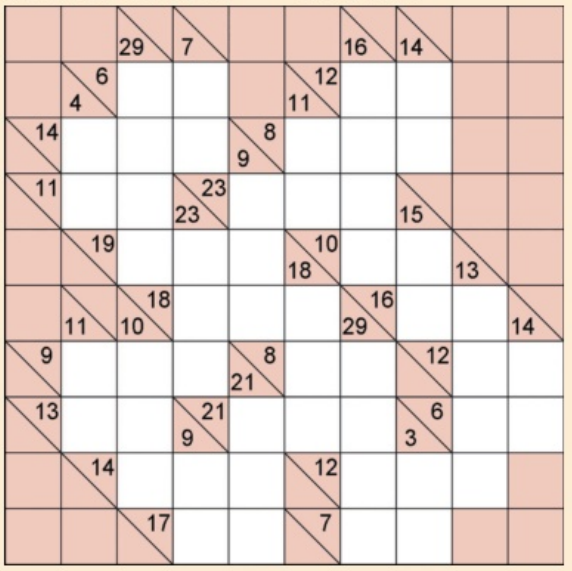

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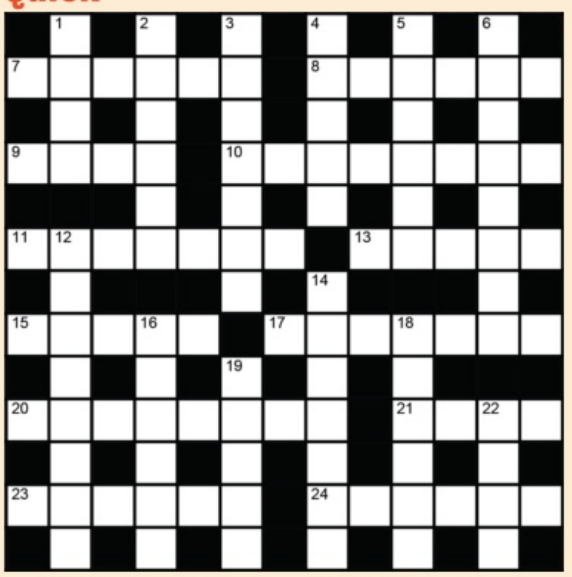


ACROSS

7 Sesame paste (6)
8 Sloping type (6)
9 Stereo (2-2)
10 Depicts (8)
11 A bandit or an outlaw (7)
13 Up to that time (5)
15 High up or overhead (5)
17 Firm hard sweets made by boiling sugar (7)
20 Associating, comparing or likening (8)
21 India's ___ capital: Bangalore for sure (4)
23 Proper or seemly (6)
24 Cutting implements (6)

DOWN

1 Its capital is Bamako (4)
2 Gaining height (6)
3 Drinking-but not in gulps? (7)
4 Half-crown (5)
5 Rabbit's run (6)
6 All across town (4-4)
12 Freed from anxiety (8)
14 Crowd to excess (7)
16 Light yellow-"Fax Len" anagram? (6)
18 Told trivial lies (6)
19 Humorous and funny (5)
22 Wyatt ____: the famous sheriff of Dodge City (4)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: W EQUALS T

TC XBT TYYJM B GBKBWDCT MC XLKF BM WFY XBT UFC FBM VLMW FBJ CTY.

Linemaro

Talking to you takes my blues away

Mindchow

True friendship comes when silence between two people is comfortable

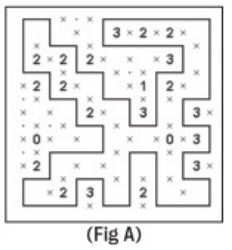
Joke of the day

I always give waiters a tip, but they never seem to appreciate my advice

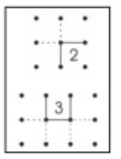
Loop

Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.



(Fig A)



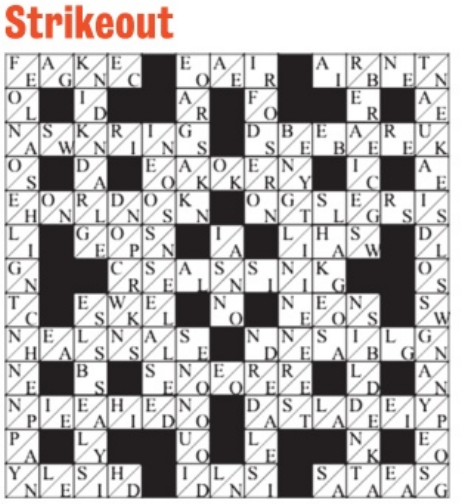
(Fig B) Not Allowed

How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)

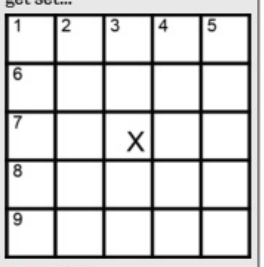
Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...



ACROSS

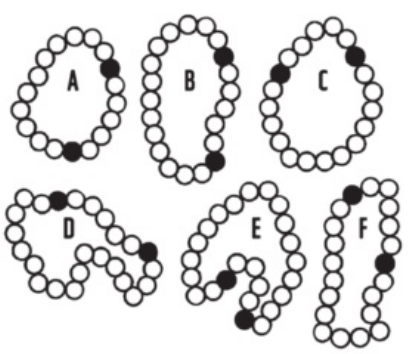
1 Comte; 6 I a car; 7 Ox Bum; 8 Dele I; 9 Sires

DOWN

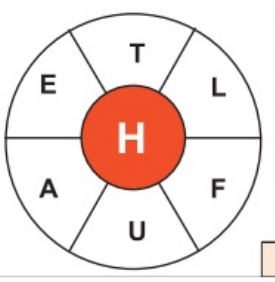
1 Brace; 2 Uli Co; 3 Mix as; 4 Do ere; 5 Smite

Mensapuzzle

Which string of beads is the odd one out?



Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

10 Average; **12** Good; **14** Outstanding

SudokuChallenge

				8				
8	3						6	4
9			2		4			1
3	8		9		2		4	6
		1				5		
7	6		5		1		3	8
5			3		7			9
2	1						5	7
				1				

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.

Easy = 2

3 5 6 7

Medium = 7

3 5 6 7

Hard = 7

2 6 8 4

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Differences: 1. Hair is different. 2. Paper is added. 3. Window in door is smaller. 4. Desk is not as wide. 5. Tie is missing. 6. Leg is moved

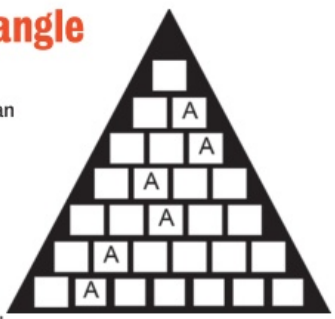
Riddler

When you behead a word, you remove the first letter and still have a valid word. You will be given clues for the two words, longer word first.

1. Outer layer -> Oxidized metal
2. Defraud; violate rules -> Thermal energy in transit .
3. Sensation of cold -> Local land elevation
4. Go upward -> Jointed appendage; branch

Alpha triangle

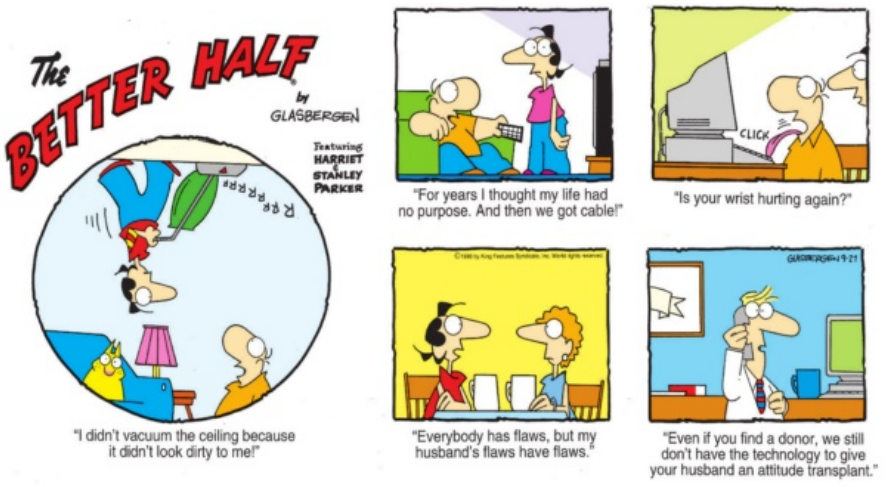
1 Second vowel
2 Egyptian sun God
3 Christian or Roman
4 Corn units
5 Clear the board
6 Cactus or egg
7 Sincere

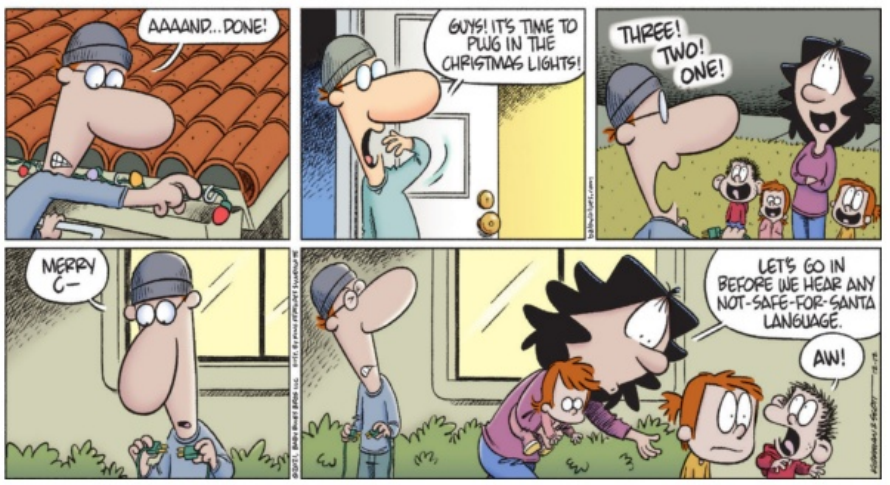


Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE

COMICS


The BETTER HALF
by GLASBERGEN
Featuring HARRIET & STANLEY PARKER
RRRRRRR
"I didn't vacuum the ceiling because it didn't look dirty to me!"
"For years I thought my life had no purpose. And then we got cable!"
CLICK
"Is your wrist hurting again?"
"Everybody has flaws, but my husband's flaws have flaws."
"Even if you find a donor, we still don't have the technology to give your husband an attitude transplant."


AAAAND... DONE!
GUYS! IT'S TIME TO PLUG IN THE CHRISTMAS LIGHTS!
THREE! TWO! ONE!
MERRY C—
LET'S GO IN BEFORE WE HEAR ANY NOT-SAFE-FOR-SANTA LANGUAGE.
AW!

The AMAZING SPIDER-MAN
BITTEN BY A RADIOACTIVE SPIDER, PETER PARKER HAS GAINED THAT INSECT'S DISPROPORTIONATE STRENGTH—
STAN LEE
—AND, LIKE HIS NAMESAKE, CAN CLING TO CEILINGS AND WALLS!

THE AFTERMATH OF THE ATTACK BY A HUGE, SUBTERRANEAN MONSTER...
SOUNDS LIKE EVERY POLICE CAR IN L.A. IS HEADED OUR WAY!
WHEEEOW!
WHREEEEEEEEEEE
IF THEY RECOGNIZE ME, THEY'LL IMPRISON ME—AND THROW AWAY THE KEY!
YOU SEE, SPIDER-MAN? IT'S JUST AS I TOLD YOU. THERE'S NO PLACE FOR THE MOLE MAN IN THE OUTER WORLD!
I MUST GO BELOW AND SURRENDER TO TYRANNUS!
WAIT! MAYBE WE CAN—
STAN LEE 11-7 SAL BUSCEMA
NO! I WILL NOT STAY ON THE SURFACE—NO MATTER HOW MANY TIMES YOU ASK ME!
THEN, MELVIN—
WHAT IF I ASKED YOU?
A PROPOSAL ON THE EDGE!

WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20
Today you may be busy at work. With the help of your strong network you may be able to implement your plans successfully. Your wisdom may help you to gain profits from past investments. You may enjoy romantic moments with your spouse, which will boost harmony in your domestic life. Love birds may enjoy happy moments.

Taurus Apr 21 – May 20
Today, you are blessed by the moon, which may make you happy. Last week's crunch is over. With the help of blessings, you may receive reciprocation for your hard work. With the help of your subordinates, you may be able to resume postponed works. Some gains in business may boost your financial strength.

Gemini May 21 – Jun 21
Today you may feel dull and may have health issues. Postpone making investments in business. Do not to start a new venture. You are likely to face losses in business. Your gains may convert to losses.

Cancer Jun 22 – July 23
Today, you may be enthusiastic. This may speed up your project. You may be able to take quick decisions which will help your business. You may start new innovations in partnership. Investments in fixed assets with the business partner is not advised.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23
Today, you are blessed by the positive moon. You may feel healthy and old health issues may get cured now. An amount of wealth stuck somewhere may be recovered now. You may also apply for a loan to buy some stuff related to luxury.

Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23
Today, you are blessed by Jupiter. This may give you confidence. You may be able to make important decisions confidently. You are decisive too. You may grab an opportunity without a second thought. You may spend money on family and friends. Love birds may enjoy happy moments. Job aspirants may get a suitable job with the help of friends.

Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22
Today you may feel dull. You may not enjoy your day. You may become a victim of arrogance. This may affect both your professional and domestic life. You may feel a lack of confidence, which may stop you from doing something creative at work.

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22
Today, you may feel energetic and may perform efficiently at work. Hard work may pay off now. This may boost your confidence. Property-related disputes with siblings may get resolved. Your meeting with an influential person may help grow your network.

Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22
Today, you are blessed by the moon. This may make you happy. You are likely to receive a big order with the help of your communication skills. You will be polite to the people around you. You may make some difficult decisions in business with the help of your colleagues.

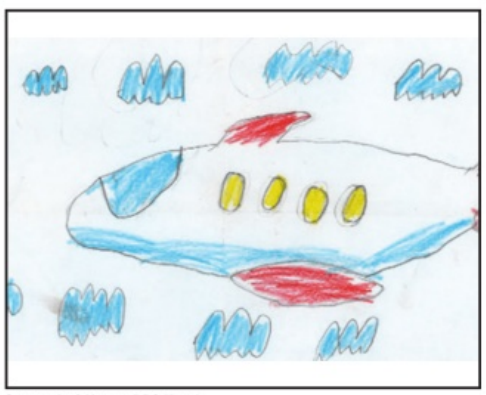
Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20
Today, you are blessed by the moon. You may have a good day and enjoy good vitality. You may enjoy at work too and share romantic moments with your spouse. This may improve domestic harmony. You are likely to make new plans to start a new project. Your perfectionism may help you to design a flow chart for this. Job seekers will find a suitable job. Love birds are advised to avoid discussions on worthless topics.

Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19
Today, you may not feel better as old health issues may arise. This may make you upset. You may take some wrong decisions due to impatience and hurry. It is advised to think twice before making any decision. Don't deal carelessly with cash or keep it loose with you. You may spend it on buying worthless stuff.

Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20
Today, you are blessed by the moon, which may make you happy. You may receive gains from past investments. You may be able to make quick decisions in terms of work. This may yield profit in the near future.

KIDZONE

Shailesh H D, 12 Years, VES Convent


Samarth, 6 Years, DPS North

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No.4, KSCCF Compound, Pampa Maha Kavi Road, Chamrajpet, Bengaluru 560 018; Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

SOLUTIONS

SOLVE IN 1M
(5−1)÷5−2)/5−3
=(5−1/5−2)/5−3
=(5−1+2)/5−3
=(5−1)/5−3
=5−(1+3)
=5−4
=625

RIDDLER
1. CRust -> Rust,
2. CHeat -> Heat,
3. CHill -> Hill,
4. Climb -> Limb

BULL'S EYE
hatt, hale, halt,
halt, hate, lathe
HATEFUL, haul,
haute, heal, heat,
heft, hula, lath,

FAST FIVE

C	O	M	E	T
A	C	A	R	I
B	U	X	O	M
E	L	I	D	E
R	I	S	E	S

STRIKE OUT

F	A	K	E		O	A	R		A	B	E	T		
L		I		R	O		R		A					
T	A	H	I	N	I		I	T	A	L	I	C		
L		S		P	A		R		T					
H	I	F	I		P	O	R	T	R	A	Y	S		
A	W	N	I	N	G		D	E	B	A	R	K		
S		D		O	A	K	E	N		C		E		
H	O	L	D	O	N		O	G	L	E	R	S		
I		E	O	N		I		I	A	S		D		
N		C	E	A	S	I	N	G				O		
T	E	K	E		O		E	O	S			W		
H	A	S	S	L	E		D	E	S	I	G	N		
P	E	A	H	E	N		A	S	L	E	E	P		
E	S		S	N	E	E	R		L			A		
R	E	L	A	T	I	N	G		B	E	E	R		
I		L		W		N		I						
A	L	O	F	T		T	O		F	E	E	S		
E			G		C			D						
B	R	I	G	A	N	D		U	N	T	I	L		
		N		I		A		E		W				
P	O	R	T	R	A	Y	S							
A		R		T										
T	A	L	I	C										

QUICK

M	R		S		T		W		C					

MENSA PUZZLE
No man needs a vacation so much as the man who has just had one.

QUOTE UNCODE
E. In E there are 4 white beads between the two black beads. In the others there are 6.

SUDOKU

1	2	4	7	8	6	3	9	5
8	3	7	1	5	9	2	6	4
9	5	6	2	3	4	7	8	1
3	8	5	9	7	2	1	4	6
4	9	1	8	6	3	5	7	2
7	6	2	5	4	1	9	3	8
5	4	8	3	2	7	6	1	9
2	1	3	6	9	8	4	5	7
6	7	9	4	1	5	8	2	3

ALPHA TRIANGLE
E, Ra, Era,
ears, Erase,
Easter,
Earnest.

LOOP

GO FIGURE
Easy
6 + 5 + 3 / 7 = 2
Medium
5 − 7 + 6 + 3 = 7
Hard
4 x 2 / 8 + 7 = 7

KAKURO

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